

MADONNA'S LOVE FOR YOUNGER MEN
BROTHER FINDS IT WORRYING {page 12}

WARMING UP WITH A BOWL OF SOUP
TRY THESE NEW RECIPES {page 17}

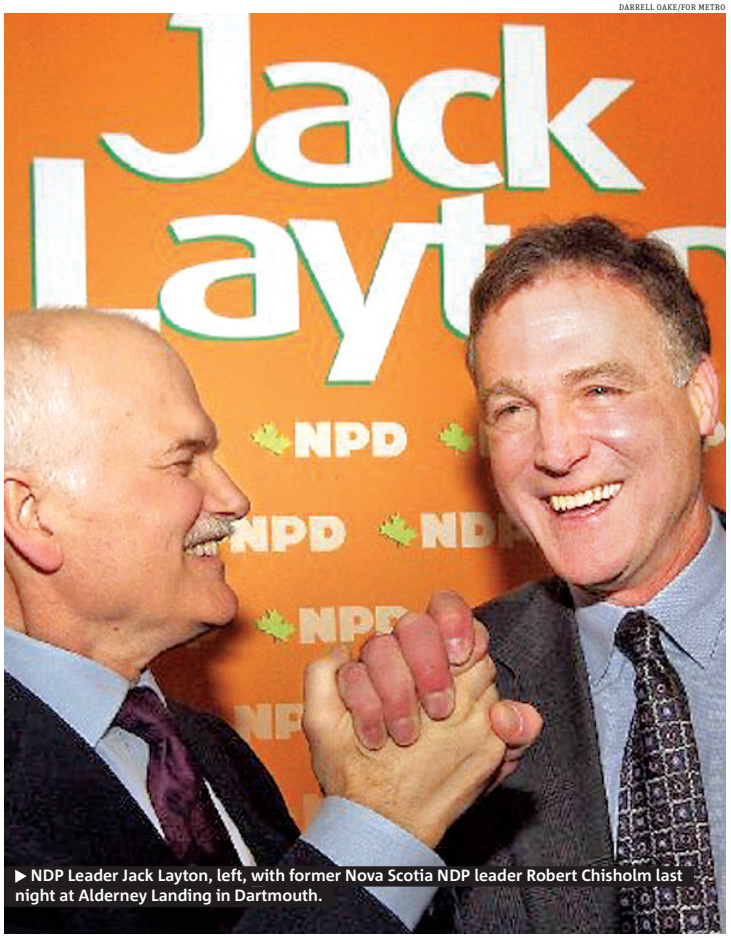


KING-SIZE OSCARS?
NOMINEES ARE IN {page 11}



HALIFAX metro®
Wednesday, January 26, 2011
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News worth sharing.

DARRELL OAKE/FOR METRO



▶ NDP Leader Jack Layton, left, with former Nova Scotia NDP leader Robert Chisholm last night at Alderney Landing in Dartmouth.

NDP sees orange in red riding

▶ Party willing to avoid election: Layton ▶ Provincial, federal NDP attend Robert Chisholm's uncontested nomination as MP candidate in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

Jack Layton likes his party's chances in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour.

The federal NDP leader was in Dartmouth last night for the formal installation of Robert Chisholm as the party's candidate in that riding.

"We think that this riding we can win," Layton said.

"It really has to do with the hard work that lies ahead, and having such an extraordinary candidate as Robert and his team, I think, gives us an open door."

Chisholm, a former leader of the provincial NDP, will face a difficult battle against Liberal incumbent Mike Savage. Savage has held the seat since 2004, winning the 2008 election with almost 40 per cent of the vote.

The riding does have NDP ties, however, with Wendy Lill serving as its MP from 1997 to 2004. She did not seek re-election in 2004. Chisholm played to his connections in the community, despite living in Porters Lake.

"I work with people here, I swim at the (YMCA), I'm part of the United Way (in the) Halifax region, and the office is in Dartmouth," he said.

"I have a lot of association with people in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour."

As to whether we'll actually have a federal election this year, Layton deferred to the punditry.

"That's for the gambling class, the politologues, as they say, the pundits to assess," he said.

But Layton said a recent slew of attack ads from the Conservatives seem to imply the government may drop the writ.

"It could be a sign that (Prime Minister Stephen Harper) would actually prefer to go to the polls. Who knows?"

"It's not about Mike Savage, it's not about any other candidate. It's about meeting the voters of Dartmouth-Cole Harbour. Ultimately, they'll decide."
ROBERT CHISHOLM, NDP CANDIDATE

ALEX BOUTILIER

Post-secondary students protest

Tim O'Neill stands by report on post-secondary education {page 4}

Study: Military getting fatter

Canadian Forces becoming inactive, survey finds {page 8}

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A saving grace for the Oval?

Save the Oval Association in negotiations for sponsorship of beach volleyball courts in centre of the oval HRM staff working on a report

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Coun. Dawn Sloane is presented with two petitions containing almost 9,000 signatures from members of the Save the Oval group at the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame yesterday.

The Save the Oval Association received a very interesting phone call over a week ago.

A representative of the World Figure Skating Legacy Fund offered their last $100,000 to support the oval in a multi-year agreement.

The Legacy Fund was set up to manage some of the profits from the World Figure Skating Championships held in Halifax in 1990.

"We now feel it's time to make a donation to something that is very substantial in memory of the 1990 World Figure Skating Championships and we'd like to contribute $100,000 towards the oval because we've waited for 21 years for the right community project to support," said Jane MacLellan, chair of the fund, at a press conference yesterday.

"What gets me is 400 kids got together to sign a petition because they want to save the oval. They obviously know the benefits and they're told they should be exercising."
COUN. DAWN SLOANE

"We are confident that supporting the operation of a sustainable outdoor recreational ice surface — the oval on the Common — is the perfect way to wind up the World Legacy Fund."

John Gillis with Save the Oval Association called the donation "incredible."

"There are no strings attached to it, other than it's for a good community project," he said.

The association also presented a petition of about 8,500 names to Coun. Dawn Sloane to pass on to Halifax regional council. There was also a petition from 400 elementary students who wanted their voices heard too.

"I'm overwhelmed with this," she said.

John-Paul Cody-Cox, CEO of Speed Skating Canada, pledged his support for the oval because it's a way to get people out and active.

"For us Olympians don't start in high performance centres ... they start on ponds and they start on community ovals like this with their families," he said. JENNIFER TAPLIN

Disturbing surprise for parents

The free classifieds website Kijiji has been known to offer a wide variety of items, but the listing of a baby for sale came as a surprise to both police and the boy's parents.

Cape Breton Regional Police spokeswoman Desiree Vassallo said police were contacted by a concerned citizen Friday after that person viewed an online advertisement listing a "two-month-old" baby for sale in Sydney.

Who did it?

▶ Police are still trying to determine who posted the ad.

"We did respond to reports that there was a baby posted for sale on Kijiji," Vassallo said.

"At this point it does just seem to be an unfortunate joke or hoax, and an isolated incident."

Police officers visited an apartment where the baby was listed as for sale.

The parents of the infant said they knew nothing about the ad.

They were both shaken up by the incident and did not wish to speak to media.

CAPE BRETON POST

Have your say at halifaxletters @metronews.ca

Maligned Bayers Lake underpass to go ahead

It was called "a screw-up" and a "calamity of errors" but the underpass at Bayers Lake Business Park is going ahead.

The Washmill Lake Court underpass — a third entrance for the shopping district — was supposed to cost $10 million but now estimates peg it at $16 million to $18 million.

"This has been a real screw-up so I'm not supporting it," said Coun. Gloria McCluskey yesterday.

She was one of four councillors who voted against moving the project forward. Seventeen others voted in favour.

Council approved an extra $994,137 yesterday to pay for cost overruns in second phase of construction.

Now staff will work on a funding plan to pay an extra $4 million for the third phase.

Coun. Jennifer Watts said she was fine with leaving it as a "bridge to nowhere."

"I don't see it as retreating," she said adding residents will look at the half-finished project as council showing fiscal restraint.

Other councillors said there was no other option except to move forward with it.

The project is getting $6.7 million from the federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

JENNIFER TAPLIN

Deadline

▶ Council voted last night to apply for a deadline extension for the project so they'll have until Dec. 31, 2012 to finish it or lose 10 per cent of the federal money.

Two hurt in afternoon crash

Two people were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries after a two-vehicle crash on Highway 118 near Dartmouth Crossing yesterday. Police say the accident occurred just after 4 p.m. between two vehicles, with each driver sent to hospital with what were described as lower body injuries. METRO

1 news

Baltic the dog heads back to sea one year after being rescued from ice floe. Scan code for the story.

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The Conservatives might learn hard lessons from Harper's tight-fisted rule. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor

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TRAVEL

'Robust year' for airport

Over 3.5 million passengers were served at Halifax Stanfield International Airport in 2010, the second highest total in the airport's 50-year history.

Total passengers for last year were 3,508,153, up 2.7 per cent from 2009. The highest total came in 2008 with 3,578,931.

Tom Ruth, president and CEO of the Halifax International Airport Authority, said the "robust year" was in part due to the continued strength of Air Canada and WestJet, daily US Airways' flights to Philadelphia, and trips to St. John's and Ottawa on Porter Airlines.

Domestic traffic was up 2.8 per cent and transborder travel rose 7.3 per cent. The lone blip was a four per cent dip with international passengers.

METRO

Pair accused of thefts via dating sites

Charges have been in laid in relation to a pair of robberies that resulted in Halifax Regional Police warning people — particularly gay men — to be careful using online dating sites.

A 20-year-old Halifax man and 17-year-old male youth are facing charges in relation to separate robberies in the south end of the city.

Police say the 20-year-old was arrested yesterday just before noontime after a brief foot chase. He's charged in relation to a Jan. 6 robbery in the area of Wellington Street and Lundy Lane.

The 17-year-old, also arrested yesterday morning, is charged in relation to a robbery on Jan. 2 at Point Pleasant Park.

Background

- Police say in both cases men picked up someone they met online and were later robbed when they went to another location.

METRO
WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jewelry stolen in series of break and enters

Police are asking for the public's help regarding three break and enters over two days this week — with jewelry the stolen item of choice.

On Monday, Halifax RCMP say two break and enters happened four hours apart — the first at 1:48 p.m. at a home on Rocky Lake Drive in Bedford, and the second on Ponderosa Drive in Lake Echo.

The first incident saw jewelry and cash taken. Police say about $25,000 in jewelry was stolen in the second incident.

On Sunday night, a break and enter happened on Hugh Allen Drive in Cole Harbour, where about $12,000 in jewelry was stolen.

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Post-secondary report defended as students protest

Students' federation stages flash-mob, dons Tim O'Neill masks to protest perceived lack of consultation on tuition matters O'Neill recaps, stands by post-secondary education report to N.S. committee on human resources

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Students wear Tim O'Neill masks as they protest in front of One Government Place yesterday.



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Dr. Tim O'Neill said the protests and concerns raised by students' organizations in the wake of his report on post-secondary education has not substantially changed his opinion on what ought to be done.

"Based upon the evidence I had and the arguments I had going into the report, and what I've heard since then, has not led me to change my thinking," said O'Neill, adding he might have clarified a few points he felt were misunderstood.

O'Neill appeared before the province's committee on human resources yesterday to field questions on his report, released last September.

Students' groups have taken issue with the report's top recommendation: The complete deregulation of tuition fees. That would end the tuition freeze put in place by the Progressive Conservatives in 2008.

O'Neill recommended removing the cap on how much students can borrow and increasing the amount of non-repayable grants, to offset increasing the up-front cost of universities.



"The government asked for my input. They obviously can choose how much, if any of it, they want to put into effect in policy."
DR. TIM O'NEILL

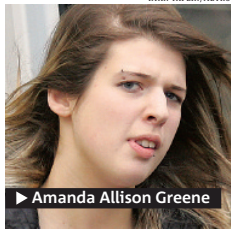
"A more effective way of assisting students in paying the up-front costs of higher education would be to further subsidize post-secondary education and reduce tuition fees," said Kaley Kennedy, a researcher with the Canadian Federation of Students.

Kennedy's group staged a "flash mob" demonstration outside One Government Place. About 20 students wearing masks bearing O'Neill's resemblance stood silently on Barrington Street, handing out pamphlets to advertise the National Day of Action on tuition fees.

O'Neill said he is not involved in the upcoming Memorandum of Understanding negotiations between the province and universities.

Preliminary hearing set in murder case

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Amanda Allison Greene

A preliminary hearing will be held in June for the three people charged with first-degree murder in the death of Dartmouth teenager Dillon Blair Jewett.

Brothers Kyle Brian Gowen, 22, and Steven Shaun Gowen, 21, along with Amanda Allison Greene, 18, appeared together in Shubenacadie provincial court on Monday.

The judge set eight days aside for the preliminary hearing beginning on June 9.

A pre-trial conference will take place in April.

Jewett, 18, was found shot to death near an East Uniacke quarry on Oct. 3. Police won't say where or how many times he was shot.

In December, a provincial court judge in Windsor denied bail for the two brothers.

Greene wasn't part of the bail application.

PHILIP CROUCHER

KNOW YOUR GOALS BEFORE INVESTING

Patricia Domingo has some words of advice for investors.

"First and foremost, they have to determine what their goals and priorities are," says the Investment and Retirement Planner with RBC Wealth Management.

Having goals and timelines will help people to determine their investor profile and develop the right asset mix for their portfolios. While people will generally have a mixture of cash, bonds, mutual funds and stocks in their portfolios, Domingo says the percentage allocations will also depend on people's risk tolerance and investment objectives.

Domingo says it is also beneficial that people have an understanding of their family income and tax situation because these two things may influence investment decisions in order to maximize possible tax deductions or minimize tax impact.

Determining all of this might seem like a challenging task for investors, but this is where the help of an RBC advisor proves invaluable.

"A good advisor will be able to translate a lot of that information for them," says Domingo.

She says that some traits of good advisors are that they are able to communicate in simple terms and ask good questions of investors to understand their investment needs. This includes looking at things from a holistic perspective.

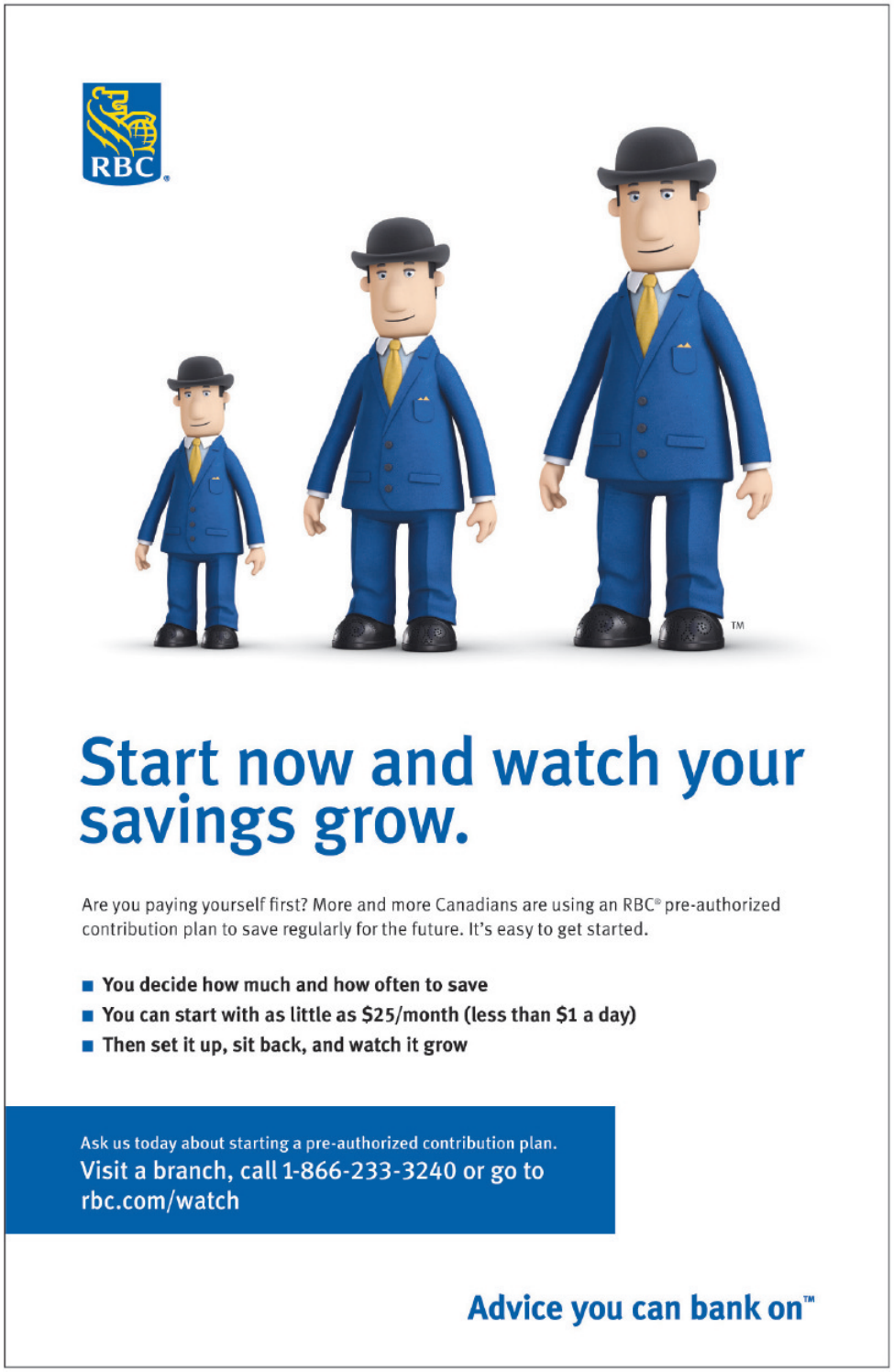
"We focus on all aspects of one's life in order to then assess how financially we can help to enrich those areas," says Domingo. (For more information on this, visit rbc.com/yourfuture.)

For people who are comfortable with investing and are able to devote the necessary time to managing their portfolio, self-management is also an option.

"There are some great tools out there that will allow people to self-manage," says Domingo, but she cautions that she often sees people who don't end up being able to devote the time necessary to be successful at it.

"People need to be honest with themselves about whether they will have the time commitment - not only to monitor the investments - but to rebalance them and take away the emotion that you sometimes have to separate from investing," says Domingo.

With a vast amount of investment options out there, Domingo says it can be very helpful to have an advisor who can narrow down the selection for you. The advisor can also help to provide the planning advice and resources needed to reach your investment goals.



SAVE EARLY, SAVE OFTEN

Putting aside savings is one of the top three financial priorities of Canadians, according to a recent RBC poll. That being said, many Canadians find it challenging to put money aside.

Patricia Domingo, an Investment and Retirement Planner with RBC Wealth Management, says the key is to be realistic about what you are capable of saving and review that number regularly.

She suggests people reorganize their debts to pay off the ones with the highest amount of interest first to help free up cash flow.

Starting to save today, rather than later is also key.

"The effect of compounding can be quite significant and lessen the burden down the road," says Domingo.

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Stabbing victim may face drug charges

Police say a man who suffered non-life-threatening stab wounds after his home was broken into early yesterday is facing possible drug charges after several marijuana plants were found inside the residence.

"At this point, we are expecting to lay charges in relation to the drugs," said Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter.

Palmeter said the victim's stab wounds were "relatively minor" after two men entered the home in the 300 block of Portland Street around 4:45 a.m. The two men assaulted the victim, according to police, with one stabbing him multiple times.

There have been no arrests.

"We believe this house was targeted specifically and we'll be investigating the possibility that the drugs in the home were the motive for the break and enter," Palmeter said.

Police were called after a neighbour phoned 911 after hearing a commotion inside the home. When officers arrived, they say the victim was found, along with the marijuana plants.

"We are pursuing two investigations at this point," Palmeter said "One is into the break and enter, assault and robbery file, and the other is into the drugs located at the home."

PHILIP CROUCHER

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ A Halifax Regional Police officer looks for evidence near a house in Dartmouth where a man was stabbed early yesterday morning.

Radon — is it in your home?

One in 10 Nova Scotia homes have higher than recommended radon levels: Lung Association

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Louis Brill, president and CEO of the Lung Association of Nova Scotia, holds a home radon test.

The Lung Association of Nova Scotia is launching a campaign to raise awareness of a radioactive gas that is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

Radon, which is undetectable by human senses, is a naturally occurring gas created in the breakdown of uranium. It can accumulate to dangerous levels, especially in homes with old or cracked foundations, and is estimated to be the cause of up to 10 per cent of lung cancer-related deaths in the province.

Increased risk

The Lung Association's Louis Brill also noted radon exposure increases smokers' risk of lung cancer.

"Reducing indoor exposure to radon can certainly prevent lung cancer, and at the same time improve air quality in a person's home," said Louis Brill, president of the Nova Scotia branch of the Lung Association.

The Lung Association is launching a new campaign to raise awareness about radon — how to detect it, and how to remediate it.

The association will begin selling radon detectors for $35 on Feb. 1.

The detectors are placed in a home, typically in the basement, and left for three months. Homeowners then send them away for testing.

For more information, visit the Lung Association's website at lung.ns.ca.

ALEX BOUTILIER

News in brief

Missing man found safe

Halifax Regional Police say a 45-year-old man missing since Jan. 15 has been located.

The disappearance of Bill Knox triggered a large search after he was last seen near the Public Gardens.

Friends said it was out of character for Knox to go missing and that he required medication.

Police did not say how or where Knox was found.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local talent announced for Winter Games

Rawlins Cross and Buck 65 are among the performers who will take to the stage for Week 2 of Celebration Square at Night at Grand Parade during next month's Canada Winter Games.

Announced yesterday, the free outdoor shows will see Rawlins Cross headline on Feb. 22, Old Man Leudecke on Feb. 23, Buck 65 on Feb. 24, Radio Radio on Feb. 25 and City and Colour on Feb. 26.

The entertainment lineup for Week 1 was announced last week.

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Obama reaches out to opponents

U.S. president makes a direct appeal for bipartisan lawmaking in his State of the Union address

'We will move forward together or not at all,' he says

CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Barack Obama

U.S. President Barack Obama called for unity with newly empowered Republicans in a State of the Union policy speech that laid the foundation for the second half of his presidential term and next year's fight for re-election.

Obama staked out territory in America's political centre. He defended programs dear to his Democratic base, including the federal Social Security pension program and his health care overhaul.

But he also backed some top priorities of Republicans, who took control of the House of Representatives this month. He called for cutting the corporate tax rate, freezing some federal spending, shaking up the federal bureaucracy and eliminating lawmakers' pet projects.

For the first time in his two-year presidency, Obama was appearing before a divided Congress. After November elections that Obama has described as a "shellacking," Republicans narrowed the Democratic advantage in the Senate as well as taking control of the House of Representatives.

Obama, who has rebounded in opinion polls in recent weeks, was looking to position himself above politics, even as both parties manoeuvre for advantage ahead of the 2012 presidential vote.

The speech comes weeks after Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was seriously wounded in a shooting rampage in Arizona that killed six people. In an attempt at unity, many Democratic and Republican lawmakers decided to break with tradition and sit together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt. Tens of thousands mobilize online



▶ Police face demonstrators in Cairo, yesterday, during a Tunisia-inspired demonstration to demand the end of President Hosni Mubarak's nearly 30 years in power. The clashes left at least three dead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tunisia's uprising fuels Cairo protest

Yesterday's demonstration, the largest Egypt has seen for years, began peacefully, with police showing unusual restraint in what appeared to be a calculated strategy by the government to avoid further sullying the image of a security apparatus widely seen as little more than corrupt thugs in uniforms. Protesters cried out for President Hosni Mubarak to step down and for a solution to Egypt's poverty.

Facebook pushes its currency

Facebook says it will begin requiring all games on its website to accept payments through its own currency system, Facebook Credits. Developers will be able to use other currency systems but they must accept Credits. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arnold speaks in Calgary

Former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger gave what amounted to a motivational speech to more than 2,000 people in Calgary. He told the crowd that "if you are afraid to fail you are a girly man."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Probe into organ sales urged

European lawmakers pressed yesterday for investigations to follow up on a report that said civilians in Albania were killed so their organs could be sold on the black market after the end of war in Kosovo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Soldiers losing war on flab, drinking: Study

Poor physical fitness, nutrition, sedentary lifestyles plaguing Forces, survey finds Obesity on rise

Canadian Forces personnel are getting fatter, more sedentary in their work, less physically active and becoming heavier drinkers, according to a new military study.

The Health and Lifestyle Information Survey also found members are still reluctant to seek out mental health services for fear it will hurt their military careers, despite several new Defence initiatives to reduce the stigma of doing so.

The document found there was a three per cent increase in the number of obese people since the last survey in 2004, even with a renewed push on fitness promotion.

"The study results certainly indicate to us that, like the rest of the Canadian population, we're not immune to this epidemic of obesity," Col. Colin MacKay, the military's director of health protection, said yesterday from Ottawa. "We're also, though, identifying that there are a good number of members interested in trying to take steps to improve their health and to take steps to increase their levels of physical activity and improve their nutrition."

The survey, which was recently posted on the National Defence website, doesn't offer explanations for the numbers. The voluntary, anonymous mail-out survey also found the number of people who were physically inactive went up four points to 31 per cent, despite a rise in the availability of fitness classes on bases and satellite gyms, and that 80 per cent of members had "very sedentary" jobs.

Despite the alarming numbers, MacKay says he believes members of the military are in better shape than the average Canadian — a belief he said is supported by the more than 20,000 military personnel who engaged in "vigorous" deployments in Afghanistan, Haiti, elsewhere and domestically in recent years.

The survey also found almost half of the respondents had more than two standard alcoholic drinks a day — above the "low-risk" drinking guidelines set by the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mighty fat

The document surveyed about 3,700 full-time Forces members for 2008-2009.

- **Nearly 48% were overweight**, an alarming 23.5% deemed obese, and 29% were of normal weight.

Oldest Canadian helped all

Elizabeth Buhler lived to see three centuries.

She endured crushing poverty in the former Russian empire, struggled through the Great Depression and experienced the heartbreak of losing one of her seven children at birth.

Through it all, Canada's oldest person kept a positive attitude based on her religious faith and a deep desire to help those around her. Her daughter says she maintained that attitude until she died Sunday in a nursing home in Winkler, Man. Buhler was born Feb. 8, 1899, in a region of Russia that is now part of Ukraine.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

KEN GIGLIOTTI/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Elizabeth Buhler

Invest. Military



▶ Peter MacKay announces $80 million in contracts.

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Propelling forward

Defence Minister Peter MacKay announced Air Force investments at 17 Wing in Winnipeg yesterday. Projects include modernized radar systems and new aircraft cargo loaders.

Corporate tax cut payoff takes time: Report

Report cites studies that show corporate taxes are most damaging to economy Consumption taxes least damaging

Corporate tax cuts will pay off in higher investment and more jobs for Canada, but it will take the better part of a decade for all the benefits to kick in, says a report by a leading tax expert.

The paper, from economist Jack Mintz, commends Ottawa for sticking to its guns in bringing down the corporate tax rate from 16.5 to 15 per cent next year.

Mintz and co-author Duanjie Chen, both of the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary, said that taking the corporate rate to 15 per cent will result in a $30.6-billion addition to the country's capital stock and generate 100,000 jobs.

However, they conceded it will take at least seven years for the full benefits to kick in.

The tax cuts, both this year's 1.5-point chop and next year's, have become key attack points for opposition parties, particularly the Liberals and NDP.

With unemployment relatively high and the government mired in a deficit — anticipated at about $45 billion this year — the opposition parties say this is not the time to offer profitable large corporations a further tax break.

Last week, the Liberals released an ad contrasting the plight of ordinary Canadians with firms receiving $6 billion in tax savings. "Is this your Canada, or Harper's?" the ad asks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reform

Tax expert Jack Mintz recommended that governments move to the next phase of tax reform by eliminating preferential treatment of some sectors, particularly manufacturing and forestry.

Google. Talk



Google chairman and CEO Eric Schmidt delivers the keynote speech at the Digital Life Design (DLD) conference yesterday in Munich. The conference brings together creators from the digital world.

MIGUEL VILLAGRAN/GETTY IMAGES

Google to add thousands of jobs

Google plans to hire more than 6,200 workers this year in the biggest expansion yet by the Internet's most profitable company. Google's work force grew by 23 per cent last year and some investors may be leery of expansion plans that could crimp earnings.

Market moment

Dollar	TSX	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
– 0.30¢ (100.24¢ US)	– 87.95 (13,259.63)	– $1.68 US ($86.19 US)	$4.490 (– 10.8¢)
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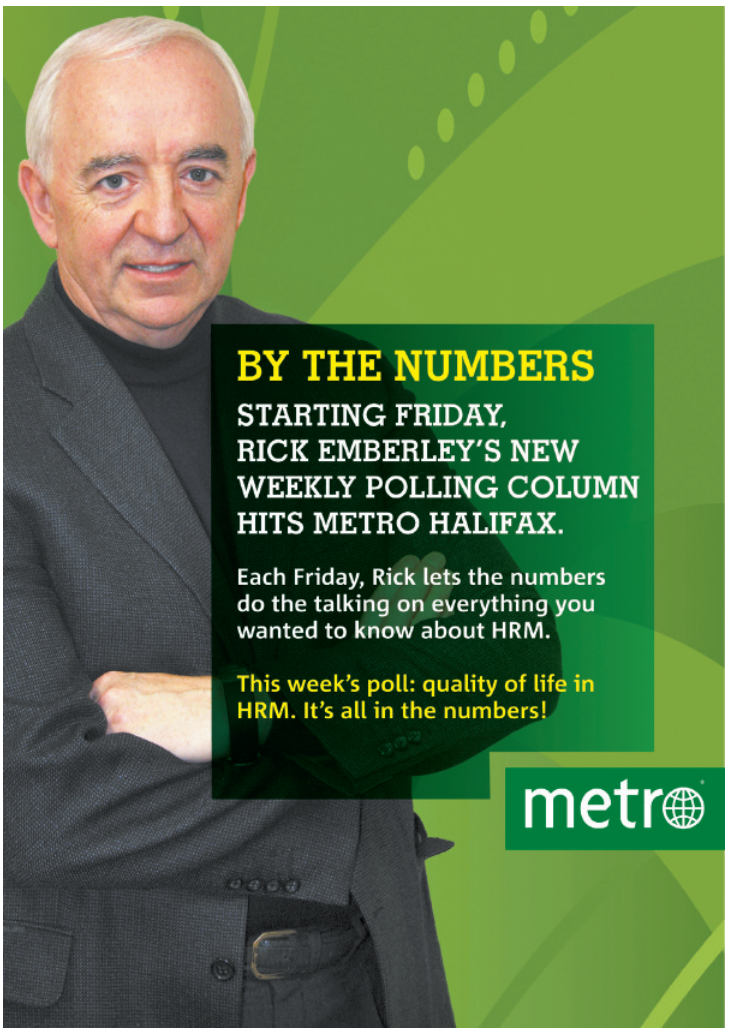
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BUTTING HEADS OVER CHILD REARING

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



If you're a parent, you probably know about Battle Hymn Of The Tiger Mother, the book by Yale Prof. Amy Chua that cheerfully condemns North American parenting practices as soft.

And just as cheerfully, she celebrates the "Chinese" style piano-math drill torture of her own children as a successful program for overcoming adversity. That's if adversity can be characterized as placing second in a math competition.

The whole thing is gloriously controversial. On the one hand, you have armchair sociologists who nod sagely and point to Chua's parental rigour as proof the 21st century will belong to China. If it doesn't already.

On the other, you have my own kids, who snort and roll their eyes and say "as if" a lot.

Chua once threatened to torch her daughter's stuffed animals unless she learned to play a piece without flaws. Daughter played so diligently she ended up playing Carnegie Hall when she was just 14.

Chua was merciless. She made the kid sit on the bench for hours and play through dinner, even denying her water.

We had a piano at our place, too. Our kids sat on the bench for minutes, then took a dive, feigning epilepsy. After a couple of those sessions, the only person who spent any time around the piano was Douglas the cleaning person, who was not happy about the dust.

Once, one of Chua's daughters placed second in a math quiz. She made the poor kid do 2,000 math problems a night until she regained the lead.

My own kids have never done 2,000 math problems in their lives, combined, unless the math problem involves extracting $20 bills from the Bank of Dad and successfully not giving back any change.

By all accounts, Lulu and Sophia Chua-Rubenfeld are beautiful, well-adjusted young women who can leap tall buildings in a single bound while playing Flight Of The Bumblebee.

Dare I say it, but John David Sullivan and Ann Katherine Sullivan are, um, differently prodigious.

Chef Iron John can whip up the world's best Fisherman's Stew while excelling at four increasingly difficult levels of Guitar Hero, while Annie is a modern-day Merlin, capable of plundering the secrets of the Tarot while adjusting your chakras for optimal energy.

They didn't exactly raise themselves, but they were full participants.

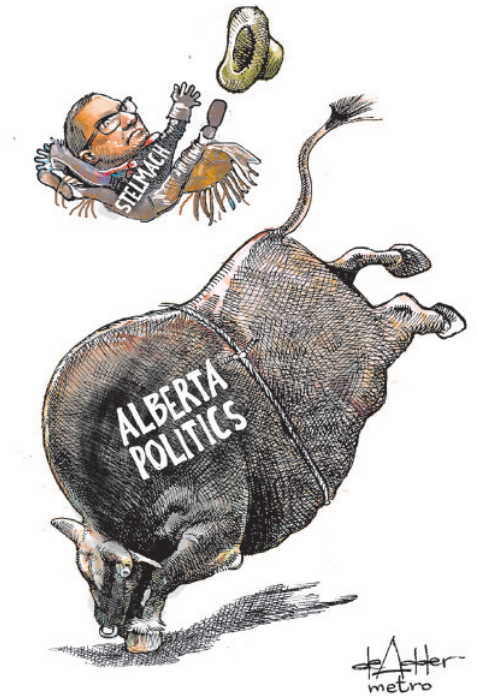
They're not concert masters, nuclear physicists or radiologists, but they're pretty amazing, and all we had to do was give up after five minutes of pretending to be Amy Chua.

So stay tuned for my upcoming parenting bestseller: Crouching Father, Belligerent Children. And relax.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Musing about concerts

Letters & Tweets

We asked: What was the best concert you saw in 2010?

@OceannaDelamer: Adam Lambert's Glam Nation in St. Jean, Quebec and Toronto. (Orianthi opened as well, just amazing!)
@BatestonBeauty: Hawksley Workman was the best concert I saw in 2010 — his talent is mind-boggling and music is amazing!
@_samdelaney: The Acorn w/ Gianna Lauren in September.
@brewnoser: Willie Nile at The Carleton, with back-up band made up of half of Matt Mays' and half of Joel Plaskett's bands.
@ChefGregClancy: best 2010 concert The Trews in New Glasgow with Carson Downey band, Alert the Medic and '80s hairband Haywire!
@benwedge: @hannahmusic at the company house. Or @passionpit during Ottawa blues fest, if that counts.
@TheHolyThief: Trans Siberian Orchestra! Orchestral strings, guitar and drums. Crazy lighting and pyrotechnics. What more could you ask for?
@jessicaology: Muse at (Toronto) ACC was the best concert I saw in 2010. Matt Bellamy is so talented!
@rossanamenezes: PAUL McCARTNEY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
@sweetsolmom: Silversun Pickups. (opened for Muse, who were awesome as well).

Picking favourite shows

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE



Which film should win the Oscar for best picture? Why?

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Metro Minute at Halifax RV show

If you love RVs, or would love to own one, it's a show not to miss.

The annual Halifax RV show begins tomorrow and runs through Sunday at Exhibition Park. Each year, more than 7,000 RV enthusiasts take in the show, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Everything from RV dealers to campground destinations and vehicle accessories will be on display.

The show runs tomorrow from noon to 9 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission is $8 for adults and $7 for seniors and students.

METRO

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE



▶ The Halifax RV show begins tomorrow and runs through Sunday at Exhibition Park.

HANDOUT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ The King's Speech has received 12 Academy Awards nominations.

The nominees are...

◗ The King's Speech up for 12 Academy Awards ◗ True Grit gets 10 nods ◗ Winter's Bone shocks field by landing in four high-profile categories



NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The King's Speech led this year's Academy Award nominations with 12, including Best Picture as well as Best Director for Tom Hooper, Best Actor for Colin Firth, Best Supporting Actor for Geoffrey Rush and Best Supporting Actress for Helena Bonham Carter. The Coen Brothers' update of True Grit received 10 nominations, including Best Picture and Best Actor for Jeff Bridges, who beat Firth in that category last year.

The other nominees for Best Picture are Black Swan, The Fighter, Inception, The Kids Are All Right, 127 Hours, The Social Network, Toy Story 3 and Winter's Bone. As expected, Golden Globe-winning actresses Natalie Portman and Annette Bening scored nominations for Best Actress and are considered the front-runners, ahead of Nicole Kidman (Rabbit Hole), Jennifer Lawrence (Winter's Bone) and Michelle Williams (Blue Valentine). Competing against Firth and Bridges for Best Actor are Javier Bardem (Biutiful), Jesse Eisenberg (The Social Network) and James Franco (127 Hours).



▶ Natalie Portman has been nominated for Best Actress for her role in Black Swan.

The real surprise this year came with the quiet independent film Winter's Bone, which landed nominations in four high-profile categories: Best Picture, Best Actress (Lawrence), Best Supporting Actor (John Hawkes) and Best Adapted Screenplay. The film about a stark life of poverty in the Ozarks, was a favorite at last year's Sundance Film Festival. David Fincher's The Social Network, which has won an impressive number of critics' association awards and the Golden Globe for Best Picture — Drama, received eight nominations, including nods for Fincher, lead actor Eisenberg, screenwriter Aaron Sorkin and composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross.

With 10 films up for Best Picture a second year in a row, some experts look to the Best Director nominees to determine which five are the real front-runners for the top prize. This year, those five are Darren Aronofsky for Black Swan, David O. Russell for The Fighter, Tom Hooper for The King's Speech, David Fincher for The Social Network and Joel and Ethan Coen for True Grit. While Christopher Nolan's inventive Inception racked up eight nominations, including Best Picture and Best Original Screenplay, Nolan was shut out of the directing category.

The Academy Awards will be awarded in Hollywood on Feb. 27.

Nominees

The Academy Award nominations

BEST DIRECTOR
Darren Aronofsky, Black Swan
David O. Russell, The Fighter
Tom Hooper, The King's Speech
David Fincher, The Social Network
Joel and Ethan Coen, True Grit

BEST ACTOR
Javier Bardem, Biutiful
Jeff Bridges, True Grit
Jesse Eisenberg, The Social Network
Colin Firth, The King's Speech
James Franco, 127 Hours

BEST ACTRESS
Annette Bening, The Kids Are All Right
Nicole Kidman, Rabbit Hole
Jennifer Lawrence, Winter's Bone
Natalie Portman, Black Swan
Michelle Williams, Blue Valentine

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Christian Bale, The Fighter
John Hawkes, Winter's Bone
Jeremy Renner, The Town
Mark Ruffalo, The Kids Are All Right
Geoffrey Rush, The King's Speech

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Amy Adams, The Fighter
Helena Bonham Carter, The King's Speech
Melissa Leo, The Fighter
Hailee Steinfeld, True Grit
Jackie Weaver, Animal Kingdom

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY
Mike Leigh, Another Year
Scott Silver and Paul Tamasy & Eric Johnson, The Fighter
Christopher Nolan, Inception
Lisa Cholodenko & Stuart Blumberg, The Kids Are All Right
David Seidler, The King's Speech

2 scene

Incendies



Quebec director Denis Villeneuve has received an Oscar nomination for his searing family drama "Incendies." The movie - which follows twins as they travel to the Middle East to uncover their mother's horrific war-ravaged past - will compete for best foreign-language film.

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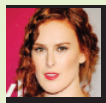
For more coverage of the Academy Award nominations, scan this code or visit metronews.ca/scene



Celebrity tweets



Katy Perry [@katyperry] Dear will.I.am I can NEVER nail that first "dirty bit" timing. Please help. Kthnxbye.



Rumer Willis [@TheRue] Umm two words...laser tag



Russell Crowe [@russellcrowe] I know I'm a bit behind on this, but just saw Shutter Island,Leonardo's best work to date



Sarah Silverman [@SarahKSilverman] Let's bring back calling people a boob

METRO

Brother worries: Madonna likes younger men

Says two 20-something boyfriends in a row 'could start to look creepy' But doesn't really expect change

Madonna's brother, Christopher Ciccone, is worried about the singer's choices in younger boyfriends.

"I guess if she continues to date all these much younger guys, it could start to look creepy," he tells Radar Online.

"She certainly isn't following societal values, but then again my sister never has and probably never will either."

Madonna is reportedly dating 24-year-old Brahim Zaibat, whom she began seeing after splitting with 24-year-old model Jesus Luz. METRO

GETTY IMAGES



Madonna is 52.

Bullock steps back

While Sandra Bullock has grown close to ex-husband Jesse James' daughter, Sunny, she's getting ready for James' new fiancée, Kat Von D, to enter the picture, according to Popeater.

"She ... knows that [Sunny] will have a new mommy soon and will do whatever she needs to do to make sure Jesse's new wife and Sunny have a great relationship, even if that means taking a step away," a source says. METRO

Breakup hard on Worthington

Avatar star Sam Worthington has reportedly split from his longtime girlfriend, makeup artist Natalie Mark, according to the Herald Sun.

And he doesn't seem to be taking the split well. At a recent event in Los Angeles, he reportedly slammed his fist into a photo wall and screamed obscenities when asked to wait before walking the red carpet, according to Popeater. METRO

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4 Diddy-Dirty $$ ft Skylar Gray - Coming Home
3 Britney Spears - Hold It Against Me
2 Avril Lavigne - What The Hell
1 Bruno Mars - Grenade
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- The city's famous Chinatown has been around for more than 100 years
- The upcoming Chinese New Year makes it the perfect time to visit

ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The view of Grant Street in Chinatown in San Francisco. Although many of the original inhabitants have moved out to other areas of the city, this is still a starting point for many new immigrants from Asia.

Experience China in San Francisco

Smack in the middle of San Francisco's Chinatown, Portsmouth Square is a kaleidoscope of sounds, smells and colours.

The cadence of Chinese dialects fills the air and splashes of red and gold glow from shop windows to banners strung across the narrow streets.

The rich smell of roast duck curls out of hole-in-the-wall eating places, blending with the faint smell of incense burning on modest shrines.

Hard to believe that only a few blocks away lie the designer boutiques and gourmet coffee shops of a cosmopolitan western city.

But that's what it means to visit San Francisco's Chinatown, a magic carpet of a destination that can take you from West to East in zero to 60 steps.

"What's really significant about San Francisco's Chinatown is that it has survived for more than 100 years. Despite the hardships early on, the community is still here," says Sue Lee, executive director of the San Francisco-based Chinese Historical Society of America.

And not just survived but thrived, she adds. Although many of the original inhabitants have moved out to other areas of the city as well as suburbs, this is still a starting point for many new immigrants from Asia. "It's a shopping district; it's a residential neighbourhood and it's a tourist destination. And that's not by accident."

With the Year of the Rabbit beginning Thursday, Feb. 3, a visit to San Francisco's Chinatown is a great way to experience Chinese-American culture.

And the best way to experience Chinatown is by foot, so it's no surprise there are a number of walking tours available.

At the Chinese Culture Center, tours begin with a look at art exhibits at the centre, which blend contemporary and traditional works.

Then it's a short stroll to Portsmouth Square, where you will find dozens of residents playing mah jongg and other games, or just sitting and talking.

San Francisco's Chinatown is the district that almost wasn't. After the 1906 earthquake, city leaders pressed for relocating the Chinese to the city outskirts. But Chinatown businessmen came up with a plan to rebuild the area and make it a tourist attraction that would bring more money to the city. At the Great China Herb Company, herbalists carefully weigh out intriguing-looking bundles of this and that aimed at restoring vitality, restoring digestion and generally curing what ails you.

East, West, past, future — it's all here. "What's so fascinating about Chinatown," says Lee, "is it's so multifaceted."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 life

Travel in brief



Red wine and chocolate — it could be a double dose of decadence. Or maybe double the migraine afterward. Wineries in the Niagara region in Ontario are inviting visitors to try wine-and-chocolate pairings next month. They include "classic" combos like late harvest Vidal with white chocolate cranberry (offered at Lailey Vineyard).

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British designer Vivienne Westwood offers unique tour of London in Fashion TV doc

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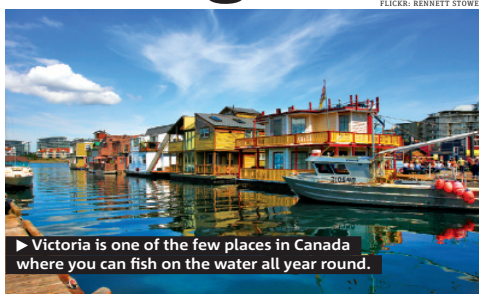
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Winter fishing in B.C.

FLICKR: RENNETT STOWE



▶ Victoria is one of the few places in Canada where you can fish on the water all year round.

Most passionate Canadian anglers have to use an ice drill during these cold months. Sports fishing enthusiasts in Victoria, however, have it a lot easier.

Instead of huddling over a hole in a fishing shack, they get to catch salmon in the dead of winter in the form of the oddly named winter springs.

Winter springs are young chinook salmon. They stay close to Victoria during the winter months to feed on schools of herring, before heading out to sea where they become prized 25-kilogram-plus trophy salmon known as Tyee, King, or just chinook.

The herring hang out in the ocean close to Victoria during the winter before their run up the Gorge Waterway, which slices through the city, before they spawn in early spring.

A common sight in Victoria in late February and early March are Gorge bridges packed with anglers trying to hook migrating herring, which are used for chinook bait later in the summer.

But by attracting the young chinook, the herring also create a unique sport fishing opportunity at a traditionally slow time of the year for tourism.

"I always pump the winter fishery all summer long because it's such a strong, consistent fishery," said fishing guide Darren Beasley. "You're pretty much guaranteed your fish. I think I did 20 trips last February and I think I limited out on every trip."

Anglers are allowed to keep two chinook each. Winter springs usually weigh between three and five kilograms each.

"It's right through from December to early spring where we have a really strong winter chinook fishery," said Beasley, 37. He describes himself as a third generation Vancouver Island fishing enthusiast, who has been in the sport fishing business for 17 years.

Many Victoria salmon fishing charters operate out of the city's downtown Inner Harbour. The boats are moored steps from the B.C. legislature and the salmon are only minutes away.

"Six miles off Victoria in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, 15 minutes from Victoria harbour, and you're pounding salmon," Beasley said.

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Soup season is finally here

Winter is the perfect time to try new soups recipes

ROSE REISMAN
@METRONEWS.CA

This meatball and egg noodle soup is a complete meal in a bowl. Try using ground chicken or turkey instead of beef. (Add an extra tablespoon of breadcrumbs if using poultry).

Ingredients:

Meatballs
- 6 oz lean ground beef
- 3 tbsp dry seasoned breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp barbecue sauce
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1/2 tsp dried basil
- 2 tbsp parmesan cheese

Soup
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 1/2 tsp chopped garlic
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped carrots
- 3 1/2 cups beef (or chicken) stock
- 2 cups tomato sauce (or store-bought spaghetti sauce)
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 cup dried egg noodles
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese

Preparation:

1. To make the meatballs, combine ground beef, breadcrumbs, barbecue sauce, egg, garlic, basil and 2 tbsp of parmesan cheese. Form into 1-inch meatballs (you should have enough to make 24 meatballs). Lightly coat a large, nonstick skillet with cooking spray and set over medium heat. Cook meatballs for about 5 minutes, turning occasionally or until browned on all sides. Set aside.
2. To make the soup, lightly coat a large nonstick pot with cooking spray, add oil and set over medium heat. Add onion and garlic and sauté for 5 minutes. Stir in green pepper and carrots and cook for 3 minutes. Stir in stock, tomato sauce, tomato paste, chili powder and browned meatballs. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to low and simmer, covered, for 15 minutes.
3. Stir in egg noodles and simmer for 5 minutes or until the noodles are tender. Serve the soup in bowls, and garnish with remaining 4 cup Parmesan cheese.

BOTH PHOTOS: ROSE REISMAN



▶ Meatball and egg noodle soup.

Red & Yellow Bell Pepper Soup



Preparation:

1. Spray a saucepan with cooking oil, add vegetable oil. Place over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, carrot, celery. Cook 8 minutes, stir occasionally.
2. Add chicken stock, and peeled and diced potato. Bring to a boil then reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer until carrots and potatoes are tender.
3. Purée red peppers in a food processor until smooth. Add half the soup mix and process until smooth. Season with black pepper and pour into a serving bowl. Rinse food processor. Repeat steps with yellow peppers and remaining soup. Pour into another serving bowl.
4. Ladle some red pepper soup into one side of individual serving bowl. At the same time, ladle some yellow pepper soup into the other side of the bowl. Garnish with cilantro.

ROSE REISMAN

Ingredients:
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 tsp minced fresh garlic
- 1 ½ cups chopped onion
- 1 ¼ cups chopped carrot
- ½ cup chopped celery
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 1 ½ cups potato
- Ground black pepper
- 2 red bell peppers, 2 yellow bell peppers, roasted
- ¼ cup chopped cilantro, dill or basil





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DREW HINSHAW
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

The move from a lowly cubicle to a boss's desk is a humble victory stroll for most. However, it can also be an all expenses paid power trip for that rare and loathsome brute that mutates into a monster just as quickly as the title changes.

Every career leap comes with a risk, and if you've elevated to a higher office, career counsellors note you're likely sandwiched between executives demanding instaresults – More sales! Faster turnaround! Prettier PowerPoints! – and overworked underlings with full of apprehension.

The secret to rendering that transition as miserable as possible for every unfortunate involved is to let the stress bring forth your inner Bonaparte.

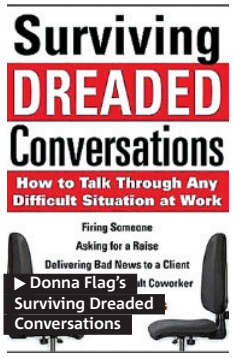
"People come in there with this façade that you're running things now, but you're not automatically going to have respect," warns Donna Flagg, author of Surviving Dreaded Conversations. "You have to earn it by the virtues of your behaviour and by how you treat people."

She says the surest way to garner the esteem and cooperation of your workforce is "to be really open."

"In the first 90 days, what you really want to do is listen," career counselor Barbara Frankel concurs. "People are often afraid to voice their ideas, like they don't want to stick their necks out. You need to set a climate where every idea is valued and important, even if it isn't acted upon."



▶ Author Donna Flag says a common mistake a new boss makes is forcing change before getting to know the lay of the land.



▶ Donna Flag's Surviving Dreaded Conversations

But if every time you fish the office pool for fresh ideas you reel in empty hooks, "put a little structure behind it," Flagg recommends.

"Schedule on-boarding meetings where you give a half hour to every person and get a sense from them about what's going on," she suggests. "You have to say, 'I want your honest opinion,' and then you have to behave in a way that doesn't punish them for giving it to you."

Too often, Frankel notes, a newly minted manager feels pressure to be the "ideas boss," the bubbling fountain wherein all novel thoughts are birthed.

"That closes you off to a lot of opportunities," Flagg cautions. Plus, she adds, it turns your workers into minions.

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Weird and wonderful 101s

"Investigating science, history, philosophy, or any discipline from a completely different perspective can be a valuable pedagogical approach in getting students to think outside of the box, and engaging them in forms of inquiry and investigation can be extremely useful in their careers and lives after university."
DR. PETER J. RICKETTS, PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC), CARLETON UNIVERSITY

- University can be a very structured experience, but a fun elective can add pizzazz to any drab schedule
- Metro did a cross-Canada search for six of the most unique elective courses our country has to offer



1

Bottoms up!
Sociable! Alcohol has long played a role in students' lives and the Social History of Alcohol at Carleton University looks at the role alcohol has played in western society from ancient times to the present. Temperance movements – social movements pushing for reduced alcohol consumption – are also examined.



2

Hey Jude, am I in the right class?
For Beatle lovers (and not of the Volkswagen variety), the University of Calgary offers The Beatles, a 10-week multimedia interactive continuing education course that examines the music and lyrics of The Fab Four, with a focus on the height of Beatlemania during the 1960s.



3

If I don't ace this course I'll die!
More than one of life's certainties, Death is a religious studies course offered at Saint Mary's University. Some of the topics examined include how death is perceived across different religions, what happens after one dies and how death has become taboo in today's society.



4

It cuts like a knife
For the history buff interested in the effect violence has had on various societies, Capilano University in Vancouver offers a history course called Murder and Mayhem: Selected Topics. The course looks at "how violence has shaped various societies' political, social, economic, religious and intellectual goals and beliefs," says its academic calendar description.



5

Frankly, I'm puzzled
While puzzles might be thought of as a form of entertainment, their meaning might actually be much deeper. The University of Toronto offers Puzzles, Discovery and the Human Imagination, a course that looks "at what puzzles tell us about the human mind and human culture," says its academic calendar description.

RICHARD WOODBURY



6

I'm over the moon for this school!
Beam me up, Scotty. Grant MacEwan University in Edmonton offers Science Fiction in Prose and Film, a course which teaches skills in "critical writing, reading, viewing and thinking," according to its academic calendar. Students read fictional works and also watch classic films from the science fiction genre.

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4 sports

Snyder starting anew in Halifax

The Halifax Rainmen are tempering expectations for ex-NBA starter Kirk Snyder.

Snyder, a six-foot-six small forward who played 211 games in the NBA with four different teams, arrived in Halifax late Monday night and practised with the team yesterday afternoon at the Canada Games Complex.

But he hasn't been on the court for almost two years because of off-court legal problems.

"It's going to take time for him to get his game back," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston. "The kid hasn't played ball in two years. The NBA guy everybody remembers, it's going to take time for him to work through it and get everything back clicking."

Snyder was convicted of aggravated burglary, felonious assault and assault in April 2009 and was sentenced to three years in prison in May 2010. He is looking to return to the NBA.

The Los Angeles native played 10 minutes and didn't record a point in a road loss to the Kentucky Bluegrass Stallions on Saturday. He will make his home debut on Saturday against the Saint John Mill Rats.

Levingston said the Rainmen staff will work "extra hours" to help Snyder get his timing and confidence back.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Levingston said. "It's a process."

MATTHEW WUEST

LISA BLUMENFELD/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Kirk Snyder playing for the Houston Rockets in 2007.

Quoted



"Absolutely not. Wouldn't even consider it. As a professional coach, I'm undefeated. And I'm officially retired."

HALIFAX RAINMEN OWNER ANDRE LEVINGSTON ON WHETHER HE WILL REPLACE LES BERRY AS HEAD COACH. LEVINGSTON SERVED AS AN ASSISTANT IN HIS COACHING DEBUT LAST WEDNESDAY, A ROAD WIN OVER DAYTON. BERRY RESIGNED ON MONDAY. THE RAINMEN ARE NAMING THEIR NEW HEAD COACH THIS MORNING.

Scan code for more sports

Duffy realizing potential in P.E.I.

Centre is having a strong season, leading the Rocket in scoring



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

Ben Duffy is maturing into the franchise player the P.E.I. Rocket anticipated when they drafted him in 2008.

The 18-year-old centre from Lower Sackville, in his third QMJHL season since being drafted fifth overall, has bounced back from a miserable 27-point campaign and leads the Rocket in scoring with 21 goals among 49 points in 48 games.

"I used that as motivation, having a bad year last year," Duffy said. "I worked really hard in the summer … I lightened up a good 10, 15 pounds and got more lean. That made me a lot quicker and I've used it to my advantage. It's helped me get to pucks first and really helped my offence."

"We've been up and down so far this year, but we've had a good group of guys and I think we're going to surprise a lot of people."

BEN DUFFY ON HIS P.E.I. ROCKET, A MID-PACK TEAM WITH A 22-21-5 RECORD

The five-foot-10 165-pounder has been at his best lately, with seven goals and two assists in his past four games and 14 points in 10 games in the new year.

"It's going good right now," he said. "It's really clickin' with my linemates. We're working hard and the goals are starting to come."

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE



▶ Lower Sackville's Ben Duffy is having a bounce-back season with the P.E.I. Rocket.

Palardy signs with Bombers

Former Saint Mary's Huskies kicker Justin Palardy has landed a new Canadian Football League contract.

The native of Murray Siding, Colchester Co., who holds the Atlantic University Sport career field goal and scoring records, signed an extension with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers yesterday.

Palardy, who started the season as a punter for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, was cut after five games and signed by the Blue Bombers shortly thereafter to fill in for the injured Alexis Serna. He went on to kick 26 of 30 field goals and set a franchise record with an 86.7 accuracy percentage.

"I'm thankful to this organization for giving me the opportunity that they did," Palardy said in a press release. "I'm confident I'll be able to pick up where I left off last year so that I can be a kicker that this team can rely on for many years."

MATTHEW WUEST

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Justin Palardy

Sports in brief

Huskies hold onto 2nd place

CIS HOCKEY. Despite a pair of losses last weekend, the Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team remain second in Atlantic University Sport with a 13-7-1 record and continue to hold steady at No. 5 on the national charts. METRO

Colley gets recognition

AUS BASKETBALL. East Preston's Justine Colley was named Atlantic University Sport female athlete of the week yesterday. The Saint Mary's Huskies guard averaged 28.3 points and 8.3 rebounds in three games with the Huskies last week. METRO



Zvonareva moves on to Aussie Open Semis

Vera Zvonareva started the Australia Day proceedings at Rod Laver Arena with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Petra Kvitova today, advancing to the Australian Open semifinals.

With many patrons draped in Australian flags and others wearing customary Outback-style hats in honour of the country's national holiday, Zvonareva advanced to a semifinal against either U.S. Open champion Kim Clijsters or Agnieszka Radwanska.

Zvonareva and Kvitova were surprised during the match when cannons went off in a nearby park. And Zvonareva asked that the match be stopped for a few minutes while a woman in her sightline was given medical attention in the stands, but chair umpire Mariana Alves told them to continue.

"I didn't know they were going to start this noise during our match, it was a difficult moment," said Zvonareva, who led the final set 3-0 before the disruptions but saw Kvitova level it at 4-4. "You're here to play tennis ... I was trying to keep my concentration." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

All-star lineup loses Malkin

Pittsburgh Penguins Forward Evgeni Malkin will miss this weekend's NHL all-star festivities in Raleigh, N.C., due to a sinus infection, Penguins coach Dan Bylsma said yesterday.

Malkin joins Penguins teammate Sidney Crosby on the sidelines. Crosby is out with a concussion and will not attend the event.

Bylsma said Malkin was too sick to play last night against the Islanders. The Russian is also reportedly nagged by a sore left knee.

"Evgeni is not healthy enough to return to the ice right now," said Bylsma. "He needs to get healthy before we can move forward with that. Is that during the break, or is that after the break? We don't know that. We hope it's soon."

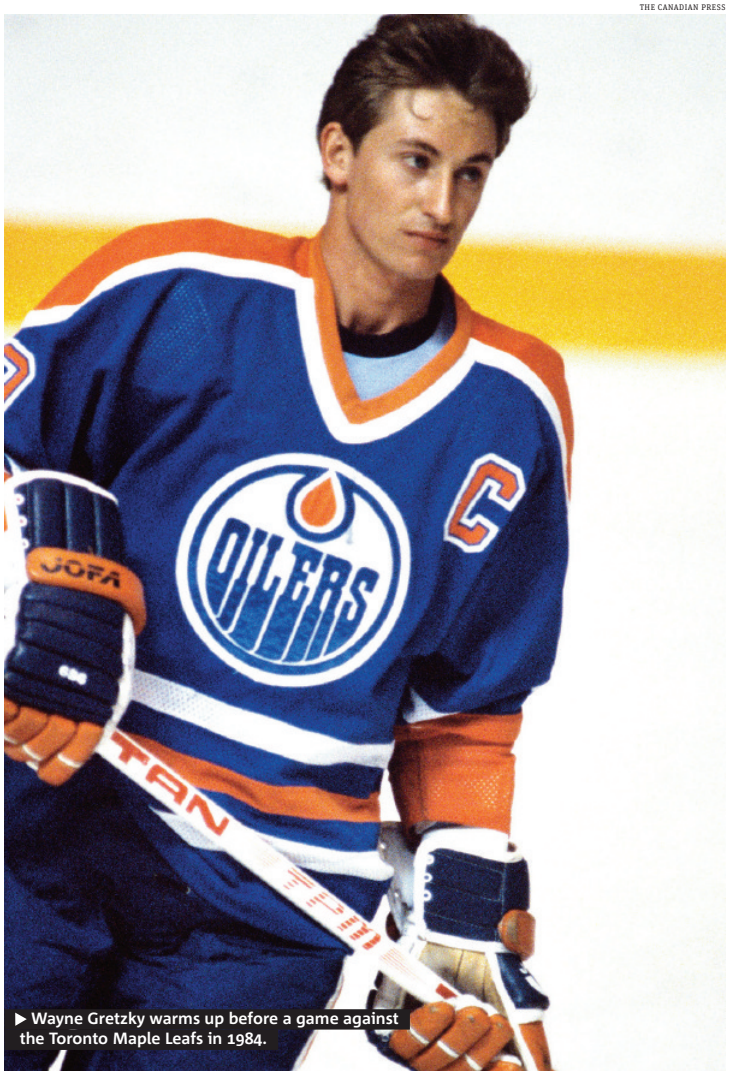
Malkin was voted into the all-star game by the fans but hasn't played for a week.

Minnesota Wild winger Martin Havlat will take Malkin's place on the all-star roster.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gretzky at 50 still looms over NHL

THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Wayne Gretzky warms up before a game against the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1984.

Only one of his 61 records has been broken in the decade since he retired

No one hits a milestone quite like Wayne Gretzky.

Whether it was scoring five times in one evening to reach 50 goals in 39 games or breaking the NHL's all-time points record during a trip back to Edmonton with the Los Angeles Kings, Gretzky always seemed to find a way to make his entries in the record book unique.

Incredibly, as The Great One passes one of life's significant signposts and turns 50 today, his milestones remain virtually untouched.

There have been more than 13,000 NHL games played since Gretzky retired in 1999 and he's only surrendered one of his 61 records — Nicklas Lidstrom and a handful of others now have more career assists in overtime during the regular season, no doubt aided by the change to 4-on-4 for the tiebreaker and the fact a point is now awarded to the losing team.

"If you're going to be passed, you might as well be passed by a guy that's a great player and a Hall of Famer," Gretzky, gracious as ever, said of Lidstrom.

"I don't mean to sound aloof about it, but it's another day and it's another birthday. I'm fortunate that my family's healthy and I'm physically healthy. I feel good."
WAYNE GRETZKY

In reality, he's been passed by no one.

"One of them had to fall," said NHL commissioner Gary Bettman. "The fact that he has 60 records, I don't think any player in any sport has ever or can ever dominate in that way. He was a consummate superstar ambassador for the game, on and off the ice. I don't think there's anyone comparable, because he's always represented this game with elegance and class.

"I believe that he's in a class by himself."

Gretzky has been without an official tie to the NHL since stepping down as coach of the Phoenix Coyotes in September 2009 — part of the fallout from the franchise's messy bankruptcy proceedings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

2,857

Points scored by Gretzky in 1,487 career games. His closest scoring rival is Mark Messier who had 1,887 in 1,756 games.

MOGUL SKIING

Heil ready for her final run

The woman who kicked off Canada's medal haul at the last two Winter Olympic Games is calling this her last season.

Moguls skier Jennifer Heil of Spruce Grove, Alta., chose to announce her impending retirement yesterday in her home province and at her last World Cup race in Canada.

The 27-year-old will compete at Canada Olympic Park in Calgary this weekend, followed by the world championships Feb. 2-5 in Deer Valley, Utah, and in five more World Cups in Europe before she caps her career.

Heil's gold medal on the first day of the 2006 Olympics in Turin, Italy, inspired her fellow athletes to win 24 medals there, which was a record for Canada at the time.

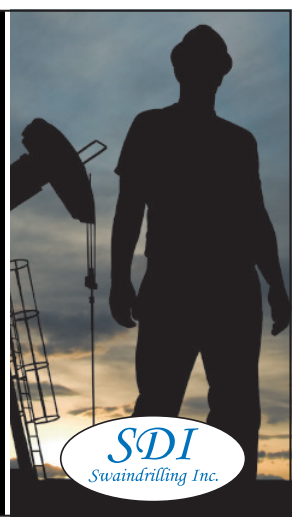
Under incredible pressure to repeat, Heil made Canada's first medal of the 2010 Games a silver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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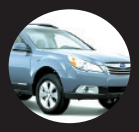
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By comparison

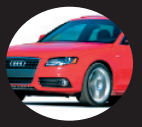
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

Engine performance

Providing the necessary grunt to haul passengers and their personal effects is a 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine that makes 201 horsepower and 170 pound-feet of torque.

This is the same base powerplant that's used in the TSX sedan and performs with quiet efficiency at the lower end of the rev range.

However, when pushed hard, the 2.4 becomes a bit raucous, although not in any seriously upsetting way.

Fully-equipped

Buyers will definitely be able to speed through the option list.

As with all Acuras, the TSX arrives with all the right up-level gear right out of the box: leather interior; power moonroof; dual-zone climate control; and a cool set of 17-inch alloy wheels.

A premium audio and navigation systems, power tailgate, 18-inch rims and an aero-style body kit are among the few extra-cost items.

Carrying capacity

It's safe to assume everybody will appreciate the TSX Sport Wagon's carrying capacity, which is more than double that of the sedan, even with the rear seat in the locked-and-upright place.

When folded flat, the load surface extends some 70 inches giving the TSX nearly the same cargo volume as Acura's entry-level RDX sport ute.



▶ Outside of North America, it's called the Honda Accord Tourer. Since the Acura TSX is Accord-based, and since Honda already has the Crosstour, it joins the Acura line as the TSX Sport Wagon.

Meet Acura's newest member

TSX Wagon

What you should know about the 2011 Acura TSX Sport Wagon:

- **Type:** Four-door, front-wheel-drive, mid-size wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.4-litre DOHC four-cylinder (201).
- **Transmission:** Five-speed automatic.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 9.4/6.4 (est.).

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Sometimes luxury and practicality fight for the same space, but there's plenty of both to go around when it comes to the 2011 TSX Sport Wagon.

It's Acura's first shot at marketing what has in the past been the exclusive domain of its Honda parent.

Technically, the Acura Sport Wagon is a Honda since it was previously launched in Japan and other countries around the globe as the Accord Tourer.

However for North America, Honda developed the homegrown Accord Crosstour hatchback that arrived for the 2010 model year with a standard V6 engine and available all-wheel-drive.

The impending arrival of the sharp-looking TSX Sport Wagon has likely turned Honda's product planners green with envy and has them wondering if they shouldn't have lobbied harder to get a wagon of their own after all.

Internal politics aside, the new TSX hauler is a smart-looking piece of work regardless of what brand bucket it falls into.

The Sport Wagon projects a certain sophisticated appearance that displays a strong kinship with the newly updated TSX sedan.

The folks at Acura believe the wagon will appeal to young, affluent buyers, but there will likely be a knot of practical-minded empty-nesters as well as disaffected Honda Accord owners just itching for a test drive.

4

The Sport Wagon comes with a four-cylinder engine with no optional V6. Interestingly, a V6 is the standard engine in the Honda Crosstour, which is actually a little cheaper to start. An Acura spokesman said that the primary target audience for the wagon — young, urban, family types — ranked fuel economy as having greater importance than raw horsepower and thrust.

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- ROLL STABILITY CONTROL

Bi-weekly financed over **72** months with **$0** down. Offer excludes taxes and freight.

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(UNDER $21,000)



SE Model Shown

2011 **FIESTA** S
5.3L/100 km hwy, 7.1L/100 km city^

Starting from

$12,999**

Offer excludes taxes and freight.

WITH SPORT APPEARANCE PACKAGE AND HEATED SEATS.



2011 **FOCUS** SE
5.6L/100 km hwy, 8.0L/100 km city^

YES, YOU CAN PAY BI-WEEKLY

$115 @ 0% APR*

Bi-weekly financed over **72** months with **$0** down. Offer excludes taxes and freight.

PLUS



FORD LETS YOU RECYCLE YOUR **2003 OR OLDER** VEHICLE AND GET **UP TO $2,300**▼ TOWARDS MOST NEW FORD VEHICLES.

This offer is in addition to incentives currently offered when combined with the $300 available from the Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada on qualifying vehicles of model year 1995 or older. Incentives range from $1000 to $2000. Visit www.ford.ca for details.

In Partnership with Summerhill IMPACT, carheaven, Retire Your Ride Canada's Vehicle Recycling Program

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ELIGIBLE MEMBERS GET AN ADDITIONAL **$1,000 OFF***



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atlanticford.ca

Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. +Receive 0% APR purchase financing on most new 2011 Ford [Fiesta (excluding S)/Edge (excl. SE)] / [Fusion (excluding S)/Taurus (excluding SE)/Flex (excluding SE)] / [Focus (excluding S)/Escape (excluding I4 Manual)/F-150 (excluding Reg. Cab and Raptor)] for a maximum of [36] / [60] / [72] months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (O4C) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $30,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for [36] / [60] / [72] months; monthly payment is [$833.33] / [$500] / [$416.67]; cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $30,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. Taxes are payable on full amount of purchase price. *Qualified retail customers on approved credit from Ford Credit (not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment), may purchase/finance a 2011 Ford [Focus SE Manual/Escape XLT I4 Auto] for [$17,999/$25,599], a monthly payment of [$250/$355.50] (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods gives payee a bi-weekly payment of [$115.38/$164.10]) for 72 months with a down payment of $0. Down payment may be required based on approved credit. Cost of borrowing is [$0/$0] or APR of [0%/0%] and total to be repaid is [$17,999/$25,599]. All purchase finance offers exclude optional features, freight & Air Tax ([$1,550/$1,550]), license, registration, fuel fill charge, insurance, PDI, PPSA, administration fees, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. B-weekly payments are only available using customer initiated PC (Internet Banking) or Phone Pay system through the customer's own bank (if offered by that financial institution). The customer is required to sign a monthly payment contract with a first payment date one month from the contract date and to ensure that the total monthly payment occurs by the payment due date. Bi-weekly payments can be made by making payments equivalent to the sum of 12 monthly payments divided by 26 bi-weekly periods commencing on the contract date. **Purchase a new 2011 Fiesta S 4-Door for $12,999. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offer excludes freight and air tax ($1,450), license, fuel fill charge, insurance, PDI, registration, PPSA, administration fees, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ▼Program in effect from Jan. 4/11 to Mar. 31/11 (the "Program Period"). To qualify for a Ford Recycle Your Ride Program ("RYR") rebate ("Rebate(s)"), customer must qualify for and take part in either the "Retire Your Ride Program" delivered by Summerhill Impact with financial support from the Government of Canada, or Summerhill Impact's "Car Heaven Program". To qualify for the "Retire Your Ride Program", which offers $300 cash or rebate on the purchase of a 2004 or newer vehicle, customer must turn in a 1995 model year or older vehicle in running condition (able to start and move) which has been properly registered and insured for the last 6 months to an authorized recycler. To qualify for the "Car Heaven Program", customer must turn in a 2003 model year or older vehicle in running condition which has been registered and insured for the last 6 months to an authorized recycler. If a customer qualifies for Car Heaven or Retire Your Ride, Ford of Canada ("Ford") will provide an additional Rebate, with the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2010 (until Jan. 31, 2011 only)/2011 Ford or Lincoln vehicle (excluding all Fiesta and Medium Truck models), in the amount of $1000CDN [Focus (excluding 2011 S), Fusion (excluding 2011 SE), Mustang (excluding GT500, Boss 302, and 2011 Value Leader), Transit Connect (excluding EV), Ranger (excluding 2011 XL), Escape (excluding 2011 XL), Rex (excluding 2011 SE)] or $2,000CDN [Explorer (excluding 2011 SE), Flex (excluding 2011 SE), E-Series, Expedition, MKZ, MKS, MKX, MKT, Navigator] (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. RYR Rebates are available to residents of Canada only excluding Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, and Nunavut. Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period to qualify for a Rebate. Rebates can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Rebates not available on any vehicle receiving CPA, GPC, Commercial Connection, or Daily Rental Rebates and Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. © 2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. ■ Offer only valid from Dec 1/10 to Jan 31/11 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with Costco memberships valid on or before November 30, 2010. Use this $1000CDN Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of most new 2010/2011 Ford or Lincoln vehicles excluding all Focus, Ranger, Shelby GT 500, Raptor, F-650 & F-750 and 2011 Fiesta S models (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). This offer is rain checkable. The new vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford Motor Company of Canada ("Ford") dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, is subject to vehicle availability, and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. This offer can be combined with the Commercial Connection Program. For small fleets with an eligible FIN, this offer can be used in conjunction with the Small Business Incentive Program (SBIP). Offer is not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Customer may use the $1,000CDN as a down payment or choose to receive a rebate cheque from Ford, but not both. Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. ^Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 Fiesta 1.6L I4 5-Speed Manual/Focus Sedan 2.0L I4 5-Speed Manual/Fusion FWD 2.5L I4 6-Speed Auto/Escape FWD 2.5L I4 6-Speed Auto. Fuel consumption ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits.

ARE WE GETTING DESENSITIZED TO HIGH GAS PRICES?

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@ METRONEWS.CA



Gas prices have been creeping up all winter. As of writing this, the national average is hovering around $1.12 per litre. Experts predict prices in spring will be even higher — probably up to $1.20 to $1.30 per litre.

The spectre of continuously rising gas prices is scary, particularly if you're prone to apocalyptic thoughts and/or driving a 1972 Buick Estate Wagon.

But according to Roger McKnight, a petroleum analyst with En-Pro International, the fear of gas prices running out of control because of insatiable worldwide demand is not based in reality.

"There is lots of inventory," says McKnight.

In his opinion the current higher-than-normal prices are attributable to the current high-cost of crude oil — plus the actions of the oil companies.

"If they were just following the cost of crude, gas prices right now should only be about eight per cent higher than last winter. Right now we're about 15 or 16 per cent higher."

He figures the extra spread is just the fuel companies jacking up their profit margins.

ISTOCK



▶ "A dollar a litre doesn't scare anybody anymore," says Jason Toews of GasBuddy.com.

Another factor, according to McKnight, is that the oil companies are not currently adding to their stock of gasoline inventories. Refineries typically run on a two-season schedule: heating oil and other products from May to September; gasoline from October to March. Usually they shut down refineries in mid to late February, for maintenance and for "change over" activities.

This year they've scheduled these down times for mid-January.

"I'm guessing they're feeling gas inventories are too high," said McKnight. Which leads the rest of us to not guess why we are so cynical about fuel companies.

Another gas price expert is Jason Toews of GasBuddy.com, which helps you find the stations in your area with the lowest gas prices. Toews says the increasing optimism in the economy will also keep prices high through spring and beyond, adding that optimism translates to more driving, and more speculators driving up crude prices.

Will all this cause rioting in the streets? Not likely.

"We've become desensitized to high gas prices," says Toews. "A dollar a litre doesn't scare anybody anymore."

This sentiment is borne out by the vehicle sales charts. When gas prices spike, we no longer seem to run to smaller vehicles. We buy the type of vehicle we want, drive when we want, and just seem to grin and bear it at the pumps.

Is there a tipping point? A pump-price that will make us change our driving and/or purchasing behaviours? McKnight says Americans freak out when their gas hits four dollars a gallon, but wasn't sure what it would take to shock Canadians. Toews thinks $1.60 to $1.70 a litre would do the trick.

I don't think Bruce Cockburn was thinking about gas prices when he penned the lyrics, "The trouble with normal is it always gets worse." But he might as well have been.

Decade of pain

Average gas prices per litre (in cents).

Year/Average Price

- **2001** — 67.7
- **2002** — 68.0
- **2003** — 72.6
- **2004** — 81.5
- **2005** — 92.8
- **2006** — 99.4
- **2007** — 103.8
- **2008** — 116.3
- **2009** — 95.3
- **2010** — 102.8
- **2011** — 112.1

GASBUDDY.COM

Avoiding wiper blade wear

Did you know that driver's vision is a factor in more than 40 per cent of all vehicle crashes? While there are many factors outside of our control in winter driving, maintaining wiper blades in good repair can provide the best visibility possible.

To avoid the risks of driving with limited visibility, it is important to recognize the warning signs of wiper blade wear and damage.

- Streaking: Visual inspection of the wiper blade reveals rubber that has hardened and/or cracked. Bands of water remain after each wiping stroke.
- Chattering: Extreme hot or cold temperatures for extended periods of non-use can cause blades to exhibit chatter, which include a choppy wiping action or smeared windshield appearance while wiping.
- Bent Wiper Arm: Automatic car washes and the wear and tear that result from aggressive removal of snow and ice buildup can cause considerable damage to the wiper arm assembly and blade and negatively impact its performance as the blade loses contact with the windshield.

NEWS CANADA

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▶ Wiper blade wear is an important factor to keep in mind during winter-driving.

STINKY SHOES?
Then you're a sheets person, because you'll love the way you can add freshness to some of your stinkiest situations. Fill all your nooks and crannies with freshness, because there's nothing as fresh as the freedom of sheets.
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learn more at facebook.com/bounce
*Keep Bounce out of reach of toddlers and pets to avoid accidental ingestion.
bounce

FORGETTING SOMETHING?
Then you're a bar person, and don't forget it. Because with a bar you get Bounce freshness for about 4 months* at a time. Amazing, huh? So go ahead, forget the dryer sheets, you've got freshness covered.
HOW DO YOU GET YOUR BOUNCE?
learn more at facebook.com/bounce
*Depends on frequency of use and dryer settings.
bounce DRYER BAR 4 MONTHS
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A BREAK THROUGH YEAR



BUILT TO LAST. PRICES THAT WON'T.

PURCHASE FOR

$24,995*

THE NEW 2011 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

CANADA'S FASTEST GROWING CHOICE OF LIGHT DUTY PICKUP*

INCLUDES $8,750 CONSUMER CASH.*

2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport shown.§

CONSUMERS DIGEST BEST BUY

CUSTOMER CHOICE FINANCING

OR CHOOSE $134 BI-WEEKLY @ 2.99%†† FOR 60 MONTHS AND $0 DOWN

WITH THE OPTION TO RETURN AFTER 60 MONTHS

STEP UP FOR ONLY $11 MORE BI-WEEKLY with Customer Choice Financing

THE NEW 2011 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SLT 4X4

- Remote Keyless Entry • 17" Aluminum wheels
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- Premium interior door trim • Overhead console
- Power sliding rear window

NO CHARGE HEMI® ENGINE

RamTruck.ca/Offers



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PROUD SPONSOR OF AMATEUR HOCKEY ACROSS CANADA

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: •, *, ††, §. The Breakthrough Year Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after January 6, 2011. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. •$24,995 Purchase Price applies to 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR) only and includes $8,750 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating retailer for complete details. Pricing excludes freight ($1,400), licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2010 and select 2011 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. ††Customer Choice Financing for 36-, 48- and 60-month terms on approved credit through TD Financing Services and Ally Credit Canada is available at participating dealerships to qualified retail customers on most new 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models (except Grand Caravan Cargo Van and Ram Chassis Cab) and select 2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models. The following terms apply to TD Financing Services contracts. **(Different contract terms apply to Ally Credit Canada offers. See your retailer for complete details.)** Vehicles are financed over a 36-, 48- or 60-month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract's end, customers have the choice of returning their vehicle through a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership with no further obligations (except payment of a $199 return fee and excess wear and tear, mileage and similar charges), financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at then-current standard rates or paying the residual balance in full. Some conditions apply. Customer Choice Financing offered by TD in Quebec is subject to different terms and conditions. All advertised Customer Choice Financing offers are TD offers. Example: 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR) with a Purchase Price of $24,995 financed at 2.99% APR over 60 months with payment amortized over 97 months equals 130 bi-weekly payments of $134 and one final payment of $10,260 for a cost of borrowing of $2,681 and a total obligation of $27,676.06. Freight ($1,400), taxes, licence, insurance, registration, excess mileage and wear and tear charges, any retailer administration fees and other applicable fees and charges not included. Retailers may sell for less. See participating retailers for complete details. §2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport shown has a higher price than the 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 advertised. See your retailer or go to www.dodge.ca for complete details. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under licence. Based on calendar year to date market share gain. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.



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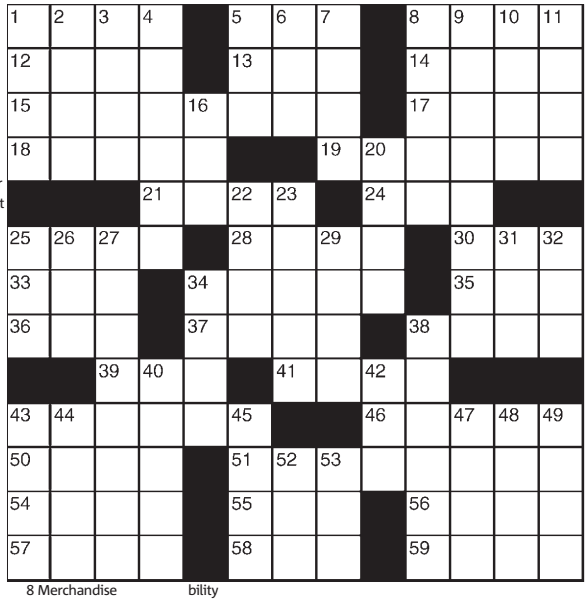
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Crossword



Across

1 Writer Kingsley
5 Petrol
8 Spaces
12 Swag
13 Have bills
14 Ear-related
15 One present
17 Maestro Klemperer
18 Barbershop request
19 Humble
21 Tend texts
24 Foolish one
25 Read, in a way
28 Lowers the lights
30 Definite article
33 Mr. Sajak
34 Expense record
35 A billion years
36 Illustrations
37 Addict
38 Probability
39 Inquire
41 Leeway
43 Hidden away
46 Got wind of
50 Wan
51 Lawyer
54 Rind
55 William Tell's home
56 Color quality
57 Uncomplicated
58 "See ya"
59 Picnic invaders

Down

1 "Oh, woe!"
2 Wool eater
3 Tittle
4 Spielberg or Tyler
5 Deity
6 Shock and —
7 Appear
8 Merchandise
9 Swore (to)
10 Peach stones
11 Highlander
16 Homer's neighbor
20 Brewer's oven
22 Mid-month date
23 River through Rome
25 Resort
26 Automobile
27 Ties on
29 Muralist Joan
31 Scuttle
32 Type measures
34 Member of the nobility
38 Conspiracy of silence
40 As an introvert would
42 Discoverer's call
43 Hatteras, for one
44 On the briny
45 Smear
47 In due time
48 Landlord's due
49 Turns blue?
52 Give it a go
53 Dead heat

▶ Yesterday's answer



Sudoku

5	1		8				6	9
3	6		7		9	4		
		7			1			8
4						2	7	
6			2		3			4
	2	3						6
8			9			5		
		9	6		7		3	2
2	7				8		9	1

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	7	3	1	9	5	8	2	6
6	5	1	2	4	8	7	9	3
2	8	9	3	7	6	4	5	1
5	3	8	7	6	1	2	4	9
7	1	2	4	3	9	5	6	8
9	6	4	8	5	2	1	3	7
1	9	7	6	2	4	3	8	5
8	2	6	5	1	3	9	7	4
3	4	5	9	8	7	6	1	2

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

I love you mark. You and the kids mean everything to me. Xoxox **TERRI**

Hey Karen. I know you had a bad day, and even though you took it out on me, I just wanted to let you know you're still super duper special to me. **LOVE WALRUS**

My Dearest Yetta! Happy 21st Birthday! Wish you have a fruitful university life! Wish you be happy every day and every night! No matters how far we are, you are always in my heart! **WITH LOVE, TOM CHAN**

"Happy Birthday Shmoopsy Poo!! I can't believe we've been together for 10 years, and you still make me laugh just as much as you did when we first met! Thanks for always bringing me crossword nubbins, I knew there was a reason I married you :) **WUV YOU, POOKIE**

Today
-4°/-7°
Partly cloudy
Thursday
2°/-8°
Rain and snow
90%
The Weather Network
Download WeatherEye to your smartphone.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You will get the proverbial offer you cannot refuse, today. But your sixth sense will warn you that it's too good to be true.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Think of what you are about to do as an investment in the future rather than as something you cannot afford. Saturn will bring you an opportunity to move up in the world, but it will cost you something, too.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Some people complain that fate is unkind, but you know that what you get out of life depends on what you put in. Saturn's retrograde move today is to be welcomed. It reminds you that the more you give the more you get.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Use your energy wisely today. Don't waste it on trivial things. And don't listen to what other people say. Listen only to your own conscience. Everything else should be excluded.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Take what happens today as a challenge rather than as a setback. Use it to inspire you to do more and do better. Everything in life occurs for a reason, so there is no need to feel hard done by.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 If you make a mistake of some kind today, you must admit it immediately. Don't try to pretend that it wasn't you because there are critical eyes watching your every move. It's no big deal: Say sorry and move on.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 This is one of the luckiest times of the year for you, but because planet Saturn turns retrograde today there is a danger you might take your good fortune for granted. Don't.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Don't sit back and let the changes that are now taking place just happen. You are a Scorpio, and that means you don't give in when the going gets tough. Fight back.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 The world is still an amazing and positive place, no matter what the doom mongers might say. Stop worrying about the future and create a better tomorrow for yourself — starting today.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You get what you deserve. As Saturn begins one of its retrograde phases, it may be tempting to believe that you have gained more than you should. But, don't be so sure.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 So much is possible for you now, but you are still holding back. Why? As limitations planet Saturn turns retrograde today, the way ahead of you is clear of obstacles. Move!

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Any bad feelings that might remain between you and someone you have to deal with on a daily basis must be cleared up once and for all. You can't go on eyeing each other with suspicion. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

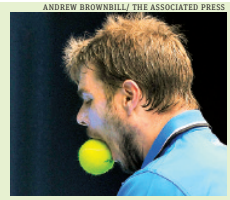


WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

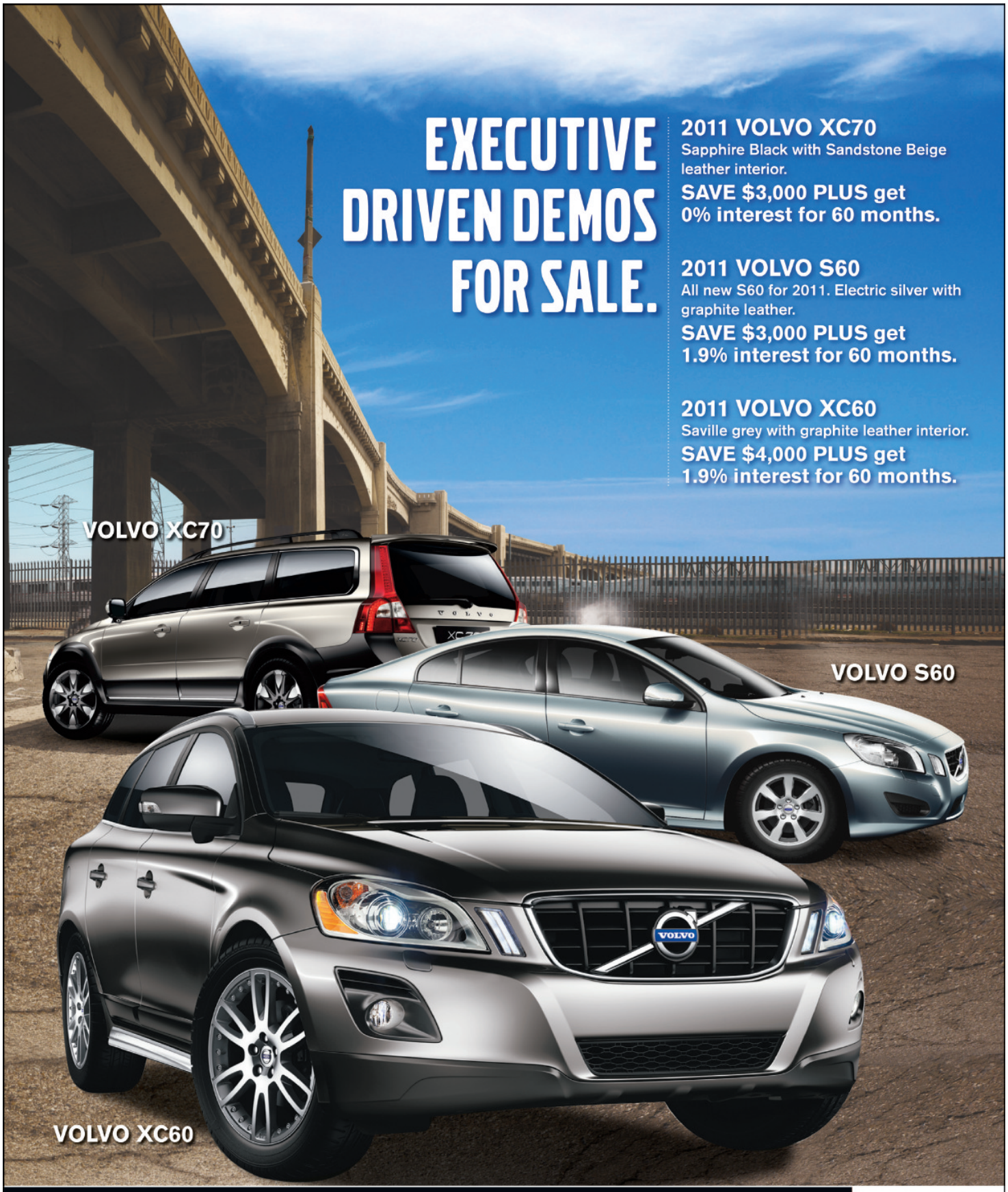
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